

### 3.4.2 Mechanical properties of matter

Learning outcomes	Additional guidance
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Learners should be able to demonstrate and apply their knowledge and understanding of:

- |     |   |             |
|-----|---|-------------|
| (a) | force-extension (or compression) graph; work done is area under graph | M3.1        |
| (b) | elastic potential energy; $E = \frac{1}{2}Fx$ ; $E = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$ | M0.5, M3.12 |

- (6) M - sketch force extension graphs of different materials  
 (7) S - Use techniques to investigate the force extension graph of a strawberry lace  
 (8) C - Apply the equation for elastic potential energy

#### Lesson 3. EPE



**S**  
**A**

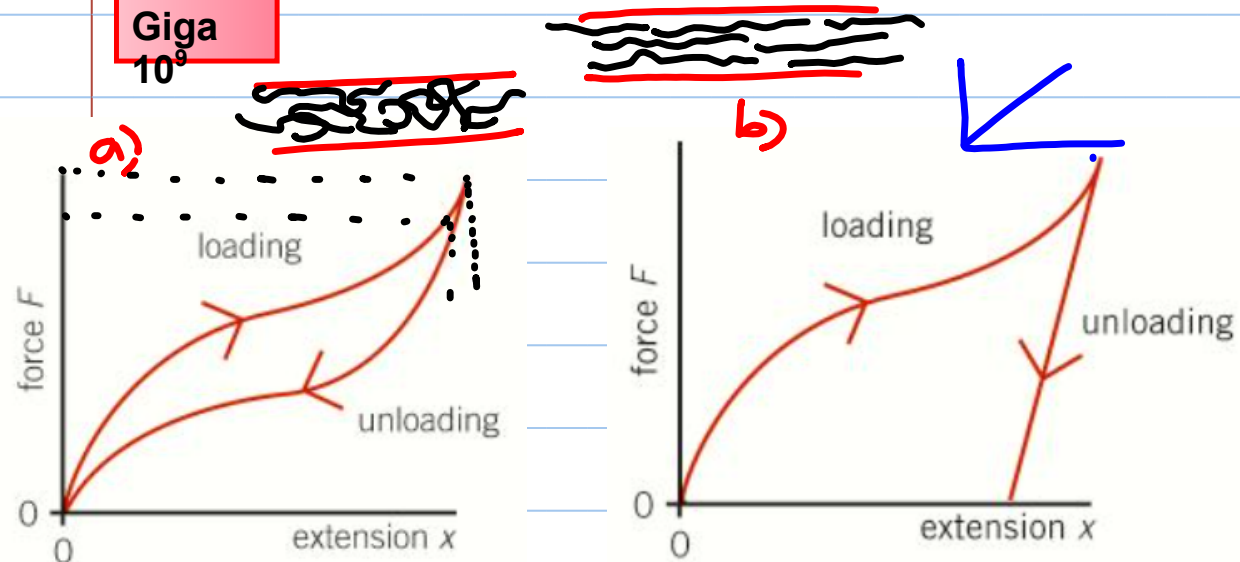
**STARTER:** sketch the force / extension curve for:  
 a) a rubber band  
 b) a polythene strip.

Kilo  $10^3$

Mega  $10^6$

Giga  $10^9$

Ex 1 - Explain how the graph demonstrates the types of deformation that occur

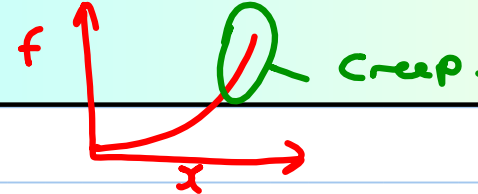


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**ACTIVITY 1:** Strawberry laces practical. - use the 10g masses

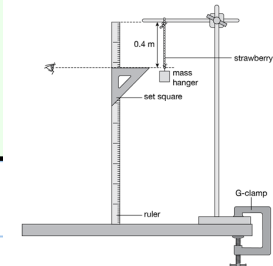
- Draw a suitable table to load and unload the lace.
- Plot a graph of F(y-axis) and x(x-axis)



Kilo  $10^3$

Mega  $10^6$  Ex 1 - How does this activity link to the space topic

Giga  
 $10^9$



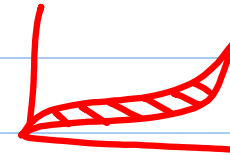
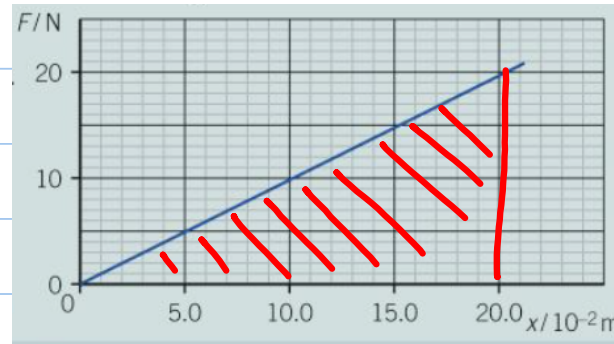
## Questions

- Which of these words best describes the behaviour of a strawberry lace and why? (2 marks)  
 Hard                  Ductile                  Brittle
- Does a strawberry lace obey Hooke's law? (2 marks)
- The strawberry laces demonstrate a phenomenon known as creep. What do you think that is and how did you take it into account when recording the new length of the lace? (2 marks)
- Using your observations and results identify the point on your graph at which the strawberry lace began to deform plastically. Explain your choice. (2 marks)

## Answers for method sheet

- Ductile. (1 mark)  
 The strawberry laces deform plastically and are drawn into longer laces before breaking. (1 mark)
- Laces do not obey Hooke's law. (1 mark)  
 The force is not directly proportional to the extension. (1 mark)
- Creep is the phenomenon where the lace continues to extend after the load is added. (1 mark)  
 Students can either: (1 mark)
  - use initial readings (1 mark)
  - wait a set period of time before taking them. (1 mark)
 Both methods are equally valid.
- Look at their results table – from experience the laces do not return to their original length when the load is removed very early on in the loading. (1 mark)  
 So they should identify a point early in their graph. (1 mark)

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How could we calculate the work done in extending this spring? Discuss

**area under a force - extension graph = work done**

Find the work done in this case.

What is the equation you have used?

$$E = \frac{1}{2} Fx$$

E = Elastic potential energy stored

$$E = \frac{1}{2} kx^2$$

Ex: What is the relationship between energy and extension?

$$F = kx$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} Fx$$

substituting in using Hooke's law...

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**ACTIVITY 1:** Compare and contrast nuclear fission and nuclear fusion.  
FoR - How does this activity link to the space topic

**HWK:**

**Kilo  $10^3$**  Support - How does this activity link to the space topic

**Mega  $10^6$**  Ex 1 - How does this activity link to the space topic

**Giga  $10^9$**  Ex 2 - How does this activity link to the space topic

